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CARRANZA ASKS WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS FROM MEXICO

IN NOTE TO THE MEXICAN EMBASSY AT WASHINGTON TODAY, PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT REQUESTS THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICANS.

This Request Raises New Issue to the Already Complex Situation in Mexico—Mexican Officials Claim that Americans Crossed the Line Without Permission and Should be Withdrawn Until Formal Compact Has Been Entered into Between the Two Governments—Washington Officials Say that the American Troops Will Not be Withdrawn for the Present at Least and that While the Question is Being Discussed, the American Troops Will Continue to Search for Villa with Renewed Vigor—State Department Officials Take the View that the Carranza Note is Not a Demand for Withdrawal of the Americans but an Invitation for Negotiations to Limit their Stay in Mexico—Secretary Lansing Will Conduct All Negotiations with the Mexican Officials.

El Paso, Tex., April 13.—The border awaited expectantly today the United States' answer to Carranza's note, knowing that the situation is fraught with possibilities. With the population in the majority of the towns along the border largely Mexican and with the Mexican towns well garrisoned by Carranza soldiers across the river, everything possible is being done to safeguard the American side.

The nineteen thousand troops from San Diego, California to Brownsville, Texas, are on edge and are prepared for all eventualities.

Carranza has preceded his note, officers declared, with military preparations and reports that the defactoists have been in positions to cut the American communications are received as truth.

Washington, April 13.—Carranza in a note arriving at the Mexican embassy today asks the withdrawal of the American troops from Mexico. The note is understood to raise a new issue in the already complicated situation, the outcome of which official Washington is reticent to predict, until the communication has been considered carefully, and the probable reply of the United States given out.

It is understood that the Mexican government contends that the Americans crossed the line without permission and should be withdrawn until a formal compact has been entered into between the two governments.

In official quarters it was stated that the American troops would not be withdrawn at present, and while the question is being discussed, the pursuit of Villa will be continued with renewed vigor.

Although Carranza has raised side issues, the main question was that the punitive expedition's object has been accomplished, as far as it could be, and the Villistas dispersed.

War department officials say they have no evidence that the bandit bands have been exterminated.

State department officials took the view that the note was not a demand for withdrawal, but an invitation for negotiations to limit the stay of the Americans.

It was announced that the negotiations will be conducted exclusively by Secretary Lansing.

Expected Along Border.

El Paso, Tex., April 13.—Mexican officials were not surprised at Carranza's note today, and army officers would not discuss the question. Should the troops be recalled, it would require three or four weeks until the last man crossed the border.

WEATHER FORECAST
New Orleans, La., April 13.
— The weather forecast for Oklahoma for tonight is rain and colder; Friday fair and colder.
Local Temperature.
Maximum yesterday 78
Minimum last night 61

WASHINGTON HAS BERLIN'S REPLY

GERMAN NOTE ON SUSSEX AND OTHER CASES RECEIVED AT STATE DEPARTMENT.

IS BEING DECIDED

Note Will Probably Be Laid Before Wilson and Lansing Before Night — Berlin Says Sinking of Ships Was Probably Justified.

Washington, April 13.—The German note on the Sussex and other submarine cases was received at the state department today and is now being decided.

It will probably be laid before President Wilson and Secretary Lansing before night.

Attacks Probably Justified.

Berlin, April 13.—Germany's reply to the inquiries of the American government regarding the steamers Sussex, Manchester Engineer, Englishman, Berwindvale and Eagle Point, signed by Gottlieb von Jagow, the German minister of foreign affairs, has been forwarded to Washington by Ambassador Gerard.

The note denies that the Sussex was attacked by a German submarine. The investigation covering the Sussex case, says the note, was extended to all actions undertaken on March 24,—the day of the Sussex incident,—in the channel between Folkestone and Dieppe. One steamer was sunk, the commander of the German submarine reaching the definite conclusion that it was a war vessel. A sketch of this vessel, together with photographic reproductions of a picture of the steamer Sussex printed in the London Daily Graphic, were included with the note, the difference in the two craft being indicated.

The steamers Englishman and Eagle Point were sunk by German submarines after they had attempted to escape and time was allowed for the withdrawal of those aboard.

W. I. RICHARDS ENDED OWN LIFE THIS MORNING

APPARENTLY NO CAUSE FOR RASH ACT — STANDS BEFORE MIRROR AND PULLS TRIGGER, ENDING LIFE.

With no cause that his family or the men with whom he is associated can account for, and leaving no reason for his rash act, W. I. Richards, night superintendent at the Ardmore Oil & Milling company, shortly after he returned to his home at 113 Third avenue, northwest, stood before a mirror and fired a bullet from a .38-calibre pistol into his right temple, the ball passing entirely through his head. His wife and daughter were in an adjoining room.

He arrived from his work shortly before 8:30 in apparent good spirits, and members of the family had not the slightest intimation of his intention. The day superintendent of the mill stated that when Richards left for home he was as cheerful as usual, and that so far as he knew there was no reason for his committing the deed.

Richards was 41 years of age, and is survived by his wife and one daughter about 13 years of age. The remains were taken in charge by Undertaker Bridgman and prepared for burial. No plans had been made for the funeral, but it will probably occur from the family residence tomorrow afternoon, with interment in Rose Hill cemetery.

QUIET REIGNS ABOUT VERDUN

A MOMENTARY SUSPENSION OF FIGHTING ABOUT VERDUN IS REPORTED TODAY.

ALONG WESTERN AND EASTERN BATTLE FRONTS THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE IF ANY FIGHTING TODAY — RUSSIAN SCHOONER TORPEDOED.

The Verdun attack has subsided for the moment, and there were no engagements of importance in that region last night, a French official statement said today.

Elsewhere on the western front, as well as along the Russian and Italian battle lines, no operations of importance were recorded.

The Russian schooner Imperator has been torpedoed in the Mediterranean. Nine of the crew, some of whom are wounded, have been landed at Barcelona.

Constantly Shelling Hill.

London, April 13.—The Germans northwest of Verdun evidently are holding in leash their infantry for fresh attacks in their endeavors to capture Hill 304 and Le Mort Homme, key points, which are tenaciously barring their way to the fortress.

The infantry has remained idle in the trenches, while the big guns are showering shells on the region embracing the triangle formed by Hill 304, Esnes and Le Mort Homme. Not even a sally by the Germans in this district is reported in the latest French official communication.

ARMY BAND BANQUETED LAST NIGHT

MR. AND MRS. STRAUGHAN GIVE THE MEN A FAREWELL DINNER. OFFICERS OF BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION ALSO GUESTS.

The Fifth Field Artillery Band together with J. W. Krueger, Walter S. Gilbert and M. M. Lykins, were entertained at dinner by Mr. and Mrs. Straughan last night and an elaborate course dinner was served with appropriate patriotic decorations.

Mr. and Mrs. Straughan have been boarding the band while in the city and pay great tribute to the musicians of Director Montin. "Without a single exception," said Mrs. Straughan, "they were all perfect gentlemen and were most popular with all of my guests."

At the dinner Mr. Gilbert took occasion to compliment the band on the splendid concerts given while in the city and to express the appreciation of all at the music rendered. "I believe I express the consensus of opinion," said Mr. Gilbert, "when I say that we all wish it were possible to just retain all of you as the Ardmore Band. Ardmore has the reputation of being a music loving city and we have some real criterion here who consider that Chief Montin and all of you rank with the best they have ever heard. I do not think it necessary for me to thank you for the manner in which you have departed yourselves. You can at least leave with a perfect satisfaction of having demonstrated that your chief knows gentlemen when he chooses his band, and we all consider you a credit to your regiment and to the United States Army."

Director Montin responded in a few well chosen remarks, thanking Mr. and Mrs. Straughan and the citizens of the city for the cordial reception accorded them and the appreciation shown their efforts to give Ardmore some of the best musical programs it has ever heard.

AMERICANS CLASH WITH MEXICAN TROOPS OR CIVILIANS AT PARRAL

FUNSTON ADVISED OF ENCOUNTER BETWEEN AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND MEXICANS — LATE REPORT SAYS ONE AMERICAN KILLED.

Consul Letcher at Chihuahua Sends Report Quoting Commander of Parral Garrison, Who Said that Americans Appeared in Parral Unheralded and Caused Alarm Among the Mexicans Who Fired Upon them, the Americans Returning the Fire—Parral Commander Belittles Event—Carranza's Note Explains Presence of Mexican Troops on American Border and in Chihuahua, where they are Being Quietly Placed so as to be in Position to be Most Effective in Case of a Break with the United States—Until Orders are Received from Washington, General Funston Will Make no Change in the Conduct of the Villa Campaign—Militia Will Probably be Used to Guard Border Unless Work of Punitive Expedition is Accomplished Within Next Few Days.

LAST CONCERT BY MILITARY BAND SUCCESS

FINEST PROGRAM EVER HEARD IN THIS CITY WAS GIVEN BY DIRECTOR MONTIN AND HIS MEN LAST NIGHT.

The last concert given by the Fifth Field Artillery Band, under the direction of Prof. Montin at the High school auditorium last night was an artistic success, and those who remained away on account of other attractions missed the best musical treat ever given by a military band in this city. The band gave the concert more as a compliment to the Business Men's association than from any other desire, and the audience greeted every number with salvos of applause which demonstrated their appreciation of the work of Director Montin and his men.

No set program was prepared beforehand, but the selections rendered were of the very heaviest character, which brought into effect the perfect training of this splendid organization.

Director Montin favored the audience with a euphonium solo, taking the Toreador song from Carmen, and the manner in which he rendered this classic demonstrated the fact that he is a perfect master of the instrument. He responded with a selection from the works of Verdi, which was equally as good as his initial number.

Corporal Bird sang "The Rosary" accompanied by the band, and captivated the audience with his splendid voice. As an encore, a trio, consisting of Corporal Bird and two other members of the band, responded with a couple of choruses from popular songs.

Bandman Jagendorf, piccolo and flute soloist, with the band, delighted the audience with a rippling polka on the piccolo, especially adapted to that instrument, which made a decided hit, and he was compelled to respond to several encores, and his work was but another demonstration of the individual ability of each member of the band.

It is to be regretted that not more were out to hear the concert, but many were kept away by sheer exhaustion, as the past week has been a most strenuous one to the citizens of this city.

After the concert last night many business men in the audience went forward and assured Director Montin that they would make an effort for the return of this band on every occasion possible, and thanked him for the generous manner in which he and his men responded upon every occasion.

Daylight Robbery at Ada

Ada, Okla., April 12.—Burglars broke into the cash register of M. B. Stall, a photographer of this city, in daylight and secured about \$20 today. Mr. Stall was at lunch and discovered the robbery when he returned.

Bulletin.

4:00 p. m.

Washington—The first loss of American lives in the Mexican punitive expedition occurred in the fighting at Parral, when Mexican civilians fired on American soldiers, killing one and wounding another. The American troops replied, killing many, according to official advices received late today.

The Carranza troops did not fire on Americans, but assisted in restoring order.

Torreon, Mexico, April 13.—Villa is believed to be near or at Urbinas Ranch at Las Nuevas south of Rosario, Durango. He is reported to be heading toward the Nazes river in the direction of the Contreras and Cenicerros bandits.

San Antonio, Tex., April 13.—General Funston received advices today of an encounter between American soldiers and either Mexican military forces or the civilian population of Parral. The details are unavailable.

Consul Letcher at Chihuahua sent a report quoting the commander of the Parral garrison, who said that the Americans appeared unheralded in the town causing alarm among the Mexicans who fired upon the Americans, the latter returning the shots. The Parral commander belittles the event.

Carranza's note asking the withdrawal of the Americans caused no surprise here. In the light of developments, military men regard the activity of the Carranza soldiers on the border and in Chihuahua as explained. They assume that the Carrancistas are quietly being placed in a position to be most effective in case of a break with the Americans.

Until Funston receives orders from Washington, no change will be made in the conduct of the Villa campaign.

Militia to Guard Border.

Washington, April 13.—Unless the work of the punitive expedition in Mexico is accomplished within a very few days, means will be sought to strengthen General Pershing's forces at the front, it was authoritatively announced last night. It is explained that General Funston will ask the war department to move into the southern department the 4,000 troops that are stationed at other points in the United States. If this is done they will be placed on duty along the border, relieving for service in Mexico 20,000 soldiers now doing garrison and patrol work on the frontier. If the department regards the transfer of troops not now in the department inexpedient, it is believed that Funston will recommend the use of state militia to relieve the troops on the border.

Nearly everybody reads The Ardmoreite. Do you?